inter-alia, seeks to strengthen the forces of technological change and modernisation; skill upgradation; efforts to improve industrial relations, improvement in industrial health and occupational safety; promotion of workers' education and their participation in management; and improvement in the welfare and working conditions of the workers. It has also been decided in the Standing Labour Committee to set up Bipartite Productivity Councils at the national, regional, industrial and plant levels.

Fishing Vessel Charter Policy

@*382. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly two-third of the fisheries potential of the country's exclusive economic zone, valued at Rs. 15,000 crores in foreign exchange remain unexploited due to the delay in the implementation of the Fishing Vessel Charter Policy of 1989; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

As against an estimated exploitable potential of 3.9 million tonnes per annum of fisheries resources in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), about 2.4 million tonnes per annum is being exploited at present. In order to exploit the remaining resources, Government has announced a new deep sea fishing policy in 1991, involving joint ventures, leasing and test fishing, which has been implemented. The 1989 Charter Policy has not been operationalised.

Pakistan and Bangladesh Assistance to Insurgent Groups in North Eastern States

*383. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI:
DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that different insurgent groups in the North Eastern States are coordinating their activities with active assistance from Pakistan and Bangladesh; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of persons killed by each of the insurgent groups in each of the North Eastern States during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. According to reports various insurgent groups active in the North-East region are having link with each other and are also coordinating their activities. Reports also indicate existence of contacts in Bangladesh. However, of late contacts of North-Eastern insurgent groups in Pakistan have also come to the notice of the Government. Security Forces are keeping a strict watch over the situation.

@Previously starred Question 362, transferred from 18th December, 1992.